

IV. REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for extending the courtesy of a telephone interview on October 20, 2004, during which it was determined that claim 5 is not rejected under 35 USC 103. Also, since a certified copy and translation of the priority document has been received, Mitsubishi and Park are not valid references.

The abstract has been amended as requested, and it is therefore submitted it is no longer objectionable.

The specification has been amended as requested with section headings and references added. Thus it is no longer objectionable.

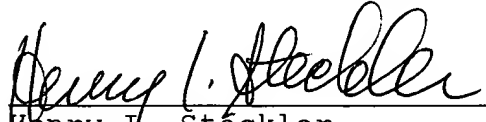
The claims have been amended as requested. Thus they are no longer objectionable. Further, they now conform to 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph.

Since, as the Examiner admits, Voyer (the only remaining reference) fails to disclose the claimed different durations, the rejection of the claims under 35 USC 103 should be withdrawn.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


Henry I. Steckler
Reg. No. 24,139

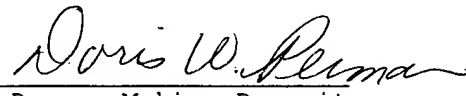
Oct 22, 2004
Date

Perman & Green, LLP
425 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06824
(203) 259-1800
Customer No.: 2512

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 10/22/04

Signature: 
Person Making Deposit